



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

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TO: Interested Parties -- Commercial Availability Reviews

FROM: Jackie W. Jones (202-205-3466; jones@usitc.gov)
Heidi Colby-Oizumi (202-205-3391; heidi.colby@usitc.gov)
Program Managers for Commercial Availability Reviews

SUBJECT: Commercial Availability Review on Cotton Sweaters Containing Certain
Open-end Spun Yarns (Investigation No. 332-465-002)

The U.S. International Trade Commission has initiated a review to provide advice concerning a petition filed under the “commercial availability” provisions of the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) on chief-weight cotton sweaters containing certain open-end spun yarns. The yarns, which range in size from 6/1 to 18/1 English count, are classified in HTS subheadings 5206.11.00 and 5206.12.00 and consist of a blend of reclaimed and reprocessed cotton fibers and Outlast-licensed phase change acrylic stable fibers.

The petition was filed on behalf of Outlast Technology, Inc, Boulder, CO, and Bernette Textile Co., LLC, New York, NY, by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, P.A, and received by the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) on January 14, 2005. The petition alleges that the yarns cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The petition is a refiling of a previous petition regarding the subject yarn that was addressed by the Commission in a previous “commercial availability” investigation (No. 332-458-022).

The Commission will conduct the review and provide advice under its investigation No. 332-465, *Commercial Availability of Apparel Inputs (2005): Effect of Providing Preferential Treatment to Apparel Imported from Sub-Saharan African, Caribbean Basin, and Andean Countries*, instituted at the request of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The advice concerns the probable economic effect on U.S. producers, workers, and consumers of granting duty-free and quota-free treatment to apparel made in eligible countries from the specified yarns, regardless of the source of the yarns, should CITA determine that the yarns cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The Commission will submit its advice to USTR in a classified report by February 25, 2005, and issue a public version of it soon thereafter.

The Commission invites interested parties to submit written statements (original and 3 copies) concerning issues to be addressed by the Commission in this review by February 8, 2005. Information on procedures for submitting written statements to the Commission can be found in its notice of investigation, which will be published in the *Federal Register* toward the end of this week.

Further information on this review can be obtained from Laura Rodriguez (202-205-3499); laura.rodriquez@usitc.gov. Information on the commercial availability investigation of the Commission can be obtained from its Program Managers (see above) and from its website at http://www.usitc.gov/ind_econ_ana/research_ana/pres_cong/332/short_supply/shorts_upintro.htm. Information on commercial availability requests is also available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, which chairs CITA, on the website of its Office of Textiles and Apparel at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/CA.htm>.